

APPROVED: Meeting No. 27-80

ATTEST: *Deen M. H. H. H.*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 20-80

May 31, 1980

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Work Session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on Saturday, May 31, 1980 at 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT

Mayor William E. Hanna, Jr.

Councilwoman Phyllis Fordham

Councilman John Freeland

ABSENT

Councilman Steve Abrams

Councilman John Tyner

The Mayor in the Chair.

In attendance: City Manager Larry N. Blick

Re: Work Session - Proposed
Operating Budget

TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

No changes

MASS TRANSPORTATION

The Council discussed parking districts. Mayor Hanna asked about the possibility of graduated parking fines. The City Manager said this possibility would be checked.

STREET MAINTENANCE

No changes

STREET DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

No changes

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

The Council discussed moving the Stop sign from Crocus and Nelson to Azalea and Nelson but decided to await a formal request from the citizens in the area.

Mayor Hanna suggested clarification of traffic lanes on Veirs Mill Road and on Jefferson Street.

Councilwoman Fordham suggested that the County be requested to paint the lanes on Gude Drive towards Route 355.

The Council discussed light synchronization in the City. Mayor Hanna suggested the possibility of proposing a legislative change which would enable the City to control all of its streets. Councilwoman Fordham suggested that this be top priority. Mayor Hanna agreed and asked the City Manager for a plan of attack.

SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

Councilwoman Fordham said she had had two complaints about snow removal both from the Twinbrook area. She requested the staff to check this out.

Councilman Freeland said the biggest problem was getting cars off the streets before the snow plows come in.

Mayor Hanna suggested repealing the law requiring sidewalks to be shoveled. A discussion followed. Mayor Hanna asked the staff to check into the City's liability with regard to not requiring sidewalks to be shoveled.

BIKEWAYS

Mayor Hanna said he would like to speed up the bike system. He asked the staff for a Rockville map with five overlays showing the five year plan of the bike system. Mayor Hanna suggested using senior aides for part time work in this direction. A discussion on the construction costs of different types of bikepaths followed.

PEDESTRIAN WAYS

Councilman Freeland suggested that the center of the City be accessible from anywhere in the City via sidewalks. Mayor Hanna agreed. He asked for a plan in a specified period of time for a complete and total sidewalk system. He was advised that this was budgeted for CIP.

HUMAN RESOURCESSENIOR CITIZENS ACTIVITIES

Mayor Hanna asked staff for a survey of senior citizens, how many in the City, how many wanted to work and what kinds of work they were willing to do.

Mayor Hanna suggested the possibility of purchasing a large bus for senior citizens. Cost estimates were distributed. Councilman Freeland suggested checking into buying services from the County or Metro to transport the senior citizens instead of purchasing a large bus. Councilwoman Fordham asked that either way, by purchase or lease, this be done within three months. The purchase of the large bus was placed on the wish list.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Mayor Hanna requested more representatives from different ethnic groups on the Human Rights Commission and asked for suggestions on getting a response from the minorities to fill the vacancies.

YOUTH SERVICES

The Council discussed jobs for youth and the minimum wage. Mayor Hanna asked if the City had work for 14-20 year olds (cleaning parks, streams, etc.). The City Manager said there is. Mayor Hanna suggested that the staff put together a program similar to a "conservation corps" for the youths and that they be compensated at possibly \$2.00 to \$2.50 per hour. Bob Mateer said that there is some minor maintenance work that could be included in this program.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Mayor Hanna suggested that Outreach funds might be better used elsewhere. The City Manager explained the Outreach function and suggested a name change.

ENVIRONMENTSTORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Council discussed maintenance costs. The City Manager suggested doubling initial fee. Mayor Hanna and Councilwoman Fordham agreed.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Council discussed the relocation of the B & O Railroad Station.

LEAF COLLECTION

No changes.

STREET MAINTENANCE and RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE AND BEAUTIFICATION

The City Manager commented on the fact that the State maintained highways in the City were very poorly maintained. Councilman Freeland suggested reducing the number of cleanings per residential streets and picking up the cleanings of the State maintained highways.

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

There was a discussion of the special newspaper collections. Councilman Freeland suggested informing the citizens via the Newsletter, that all newspapers should be tied up and put out separately from other trash so as to keep the cost of all trash collection at a minimum.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No changes.

SEWAGE COLLECTION

No changes.

SEWAGE UTILITIES SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION

No changes.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

WATER TREATMENT

No changes.

UTILITY BILLING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Council discussed utility billings and customer service. John Lawton explained to the Council different methods of meter reading. The City Manager said that he would have the staff prepare a memo stating the number of very large meter readings. John Lawton said he would prepare a report on alternative billing cycles and technological meter reading services.

WATER DISTRIBUTION

No changes.

WATER SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION

No changes.

STREET LIGHTING

No changes.

POLICE ACTIVITIES

Councilman Freeland asked Chief Stout to check into State supporting radar units program and to also check into car dealers providing cars for officers.

Mayor Hanna asked if additional force is needed. Chief Stout said two additional officers could be used. Mayor Hanna asked that one additional officer be included in the wish list, with Councilman Freeland agreeing and Councilwoman Fordham opposing.

Mayor Hanna asked Chief Stout to look into City and County follow-up contact of complaints. He expressed his concern that this was an important matter.

Councilwoman Fordham inquired about specialized services to citizens. Chief Stout advised that if an officer is available, there is no problem; however, if all officers are on call, it cannot be done. Mayor Hanna said this should be made known to citizens through the Newsletter.

Mayor Hanna expressed his concern of the unsatisfactory response of dispatchers. Chief Stout advised that this would be taken care of.

ANIMAL CONTROL

A discussion was held with regard to the relocation of the animal shelter. All agreed that this was a good idea.

CODE ENFORCEMENT, HOUSING CODES and BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODES

Paul Radauskas did a visual show on the number of inspections, complaints and municipal infractions.

Councilman Freeland suggested putting another person in Planning to work in conjunction with Licenses and Inspection. Mayor Hanna suggested adding another inspector strictly for site plans, etc. Both were put on the wish list.

Doug Horne suggested bonding contractors for completion of construction (i.e. for things not conducive to the time of year.)

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council in Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m., to convene again in General Session on Monday, June 2, 1980 at 8:00 p.m. or at the call of the Mayor.